



1. (Amended) A method for promoting survival or growth of mammalian neural cells, wherein said cells express an OP/BMP-activated serine/threonine kinase receptor and a GDNF/NGF-activated tyrosine kinase receptor, comprising:

contacting neural cells with a preparation comprising

- (a) an OP/BMP morphogen having an amino acid sequence with at least 70% homology with the C-terminal seven cysteine skeleton of human OP-1, and
- (b) a GDNF/NGF neurotrophic factor.

15. (Amended) A method as in claim 1 wherein said OP/BMP morphogen comprises an amino acid sequence having at least 80% homology with the C-terminal seven-cysteine domain of human OP-1.

16. (Amended) A method as in claim 1 wherein said OP/BMP morphogen comprises an amino acid sequence having at least 60% amino acid identity with the C-terminal seven-cysteine domain of human OP-1.

17. (Amended) A method as in claim 1 wherein said OP/BMP morphogen comprises an amino acid sequence having at least 70% amino acid identity with the C-terminal seven-cysteine domain of human OP-1.

18. (Amended) A method as in claim 1 wherein said OP/BMP morphogen comprises at least the C-terminal six- or seven-cysteine domain of a mammalian protein selected from the group consisting of OP-1, OP-2, OP-3, BMP2, BMP3, BMP4, BMP5, BMP6 and BMP9.

19. (Amended) A method as in any of claims 1-4 wherein the effective concentration of the preparation is between 0.1 ng/ml and 10 µg/ml of said OP/BMP morphogen and between 0.1 ng/ml and 10 µg/ml of said GDNF/NGF neurotrophic factor.